

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re application of

Leslie Robert WATSON et al.

Box PCT

Serial No. 09/555,360

Attention: PCT Legal Office

Filed May 30, 2000

SAMPLE DISTRIBUTION APPARATUS/SYSTEM

PETITION UNDER 37 CFR §1.47(a)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the above-identified application be accepted under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.47(a) even though the sixth listed inventor, namely Christian Darrel DECOSTERD, cannot be located.

Submitted herewith are five declarations each signed by one of the remaining five other inventors, but each declaration lists all six inventors in accordance with 37 CFR §1.63.

The last-known address of the non-signing inventor Christian Darrel DECOSTERD is: 84 Dunedin Street, Sunnybank Queensland, 4109, Australia.

There is also submitted herewith a declaration of Ricky Siang Fatt CHIA, an electrical engineer and technical assistant at Intellpro (a firm of Australian patent attorneys and applicants' foreign counsel), who has knowledge of the facts of the inability to locate the non-signing inventor.

As is more fully detailed in Mr. CHIA's declaration, several attempts were made to locate and obtain Mr. Christian

*Duplicate
See paper
#3*

Darrel DECOSTERD's signature on the application papers. Finally, on August 17, 2000, following the undersigned's recommendation, Mr. CHIA sent a registered letter to Mr. DECOSTERD at his above-mentioned last known address. Accompanying the registered letter were a combined declaration and power of attorney, an assignment document, and a complete copy of the application papers. The registered letter bore post number RL 5065698.

Mr. CHIA declares that on August 24, 2000, the registered letter was returned with the words "RETURN TO SENDER" with the box entitled "LEFT ADDRESS" checked. On the reverse side of the envelope, the Dead Letter Office of Australia applied its stamp on August 22, 2000.

There is also submitted herewith 5 individual assignments, one from each of the five signing inventors to A.i. Scientific Pty Ltd.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the requisite 37 CFR 1.17(h) petition fee of \$130 to counsel's Deposit Account No. 25-0120.

Petitioner also submits herewith the copy of the Notification of Missing Requirements Under 35 USC 371 in the United States Designated/Elected Office (Form PCT/DO/EO/905), and petitions for a two-month extension to respond to such notification until September 26, 2000. It is requested that the extension fee of \$190 be also charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 25-0120.

WATSON et al. S.N. 09/555,360

In view of the above, it is respectfully requested that the above-identified application be accepted under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.47(a).

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

Philip Dubois
Reg. No. 50,696

By *for*

Benoît Castel
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 35,041
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone: 703/521-2297

September 26, 2000